

Report to POLICY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Local Development Scheme 2021

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Roberts, Cabinet Member for Housing

Officer Contact: Emma Barton, Director of Economy

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Reason for Decision

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Local Development Scheme 2021.

Executive Summary

The council has to prepare a Local Plan to ensure that we have an up-to-date and comprehensive planning framework to support the borough's economic, environmental and social objectives. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the project plan for the Local Plan. It sets out details and timetables about the planning documents we will prepare, including:

- Oldham's Local Plan (incorporating site allocations); and
- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan)

This update has been prepared to amend references from GMSF to Places for Everyone (PfE), reflect the revised timeline for PfE and the review of Oldham's Local Plan.

This update ('Issue 12') is effective from 3 August 2021 upon adoption at Cabinet.

Recommendations

To approve the LDS 2021 for consideration at Cabinet and for publication upon adoption.

Local Development Scheme 2021

1 Background

- 1.1 The council has to prepare a Local Plan to provide an up-to-date and comprehensive planning framework that will support the borough's economic, environmental and social objectives. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a public statement setting out the council's project plan for preparing the Local Plan and its supporting documents.
- 1.2 In accordance with Section 15(7) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011), this LDS replaces 'Issue 11' and shall have effect from 3 August 2021.
- 1.3 The purpose of the LDS is to:
- Set out what planning policy documents exist and what new documents will be prepared as part of, and in support of, the Local Plan;
 - Set out the timescales the public can expect for the preparation and review of these documents;
 - Indicate when the local community can get involved and influence the plan-making process;
 - Enable work programmes to be set for the preparation of Local Plan documents; and
 - Show how the programme for the production of documents will establish and reflect the council's priorities and to assist the programming of other council strategies and programmes.
- 1.4 Following approval the LDS will then be published in line with the council's Statement of Community Involvement and placed on the council's website.
- 1.5 The main changes between this LDS and that published in September 2020 ('Issue 11') are as follows:
- References to Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment (GMSF) have been replaced with Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document and the profile has been amended to reflect the most recent timetable; and
 - The profiles for the Local Plan review and Proposals Map have been amended to reflect changes to the timetable.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Oldham's Local Plan currently comprises a series of documents which together provide the statutory development plan for the borough and are:
- The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document, adopted in November 2011;
 - Proposals Map, dated April 2013;
 - The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan, adopted in April 2012; and
 - The Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan, adopted in April 2013.

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- 2.2 In addition to the above there are a limited number of policies from the Oldham Unitary Development Plan (2006) that have been ‘saved’. There are also supporting documents such as:
- The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), adopted September 2020;
 - Supplementary Planning Documents and Interim Planning Position Papers; and
 - Oldham’s Monitoring Reports.
- 2.3 Up until December 2020 a joint development plan document (DPD) of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities was being prepared - Greater Manchester’s Plan for Jobs, Homes & the Environment (known as the “GMSF”). The GMSF 2020 had reached the Regulation 19 (Publication) stage of the process. However, the withdrawal of Stockport Council from GMSF signalled its end as a joint plan for the ten Greater Manchester districts.
- 2.4 The nine remaining GM councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), have agreed to form a joint committee to prepare Places for Everyone - a joint development plan document for jobs, new homes and sustainable growth across their boroughs.
- 2.5 The proposed timetable for the remaining stages of the PfE Joint DPD is set out in the LDS and in table 1 below.
- 2.6 Once adopted the PfE Joint DPD becomes part of the Local Plan for Oldham.
- 2.7 Whilst the PfE Joint DPD will be part of Oldham’s Local Plan it is a high level, strategic plan and does not cover everything that a district local plan would. Local plans will continue to be important to take forward the strategic policies set out in the PfE Joint DPD and interpret these at a more detailed local level to support the creation of locally distinctive high-quality places/neighbourhoods.
- 2.8 The current Core Strategy was adopted in November 2011 and a review of Oldham’s Local Plan is required to:
- Meet the requirements set out in NPPF, particularly in relation to the need for Local Plans to be reviewed every five-years and then updated as appropriate;
 - Update policies, particularly those in relation to housing and employment, to reflect changes in market signals, local circumstances and priorities and legislation, in order to provide a succinct and up-to-date plan in line with the requirements set out in NPPF; and
 - Reflect the strategic policies proposed in the PfE Joint DPD, providing further direction and guidance at the local level.
- 2.9 The Local Plan will therefore deal with matters at the local level setting out the spatial vision, strategic objectives and strategy for Oldham and cover planning policies and site allocations, where they provide additional policy direction for Oldham,
- 2.10 Section 5 of the LDS includes profiles for both the PfE Joint DPD and Oldham’s Local Plan, setting out a broad timetable for the preparation of each. Preparation of the Local Plan continues to twin-track preparation of the PfE Joint DPD where possible. The timetables for both are set out in table 1 below

Table 1 - Timetables for the PfE Joint DPD and Local Plan review

GMSF / PfE Joint DPD Stage	GMSF / PfE Joint DPD	Local Plan Review Stage	Local Plan Review
Initial consultation on the objectively assessed development need	November 2014		
Consultation on vision, strategy and growth options	October to December 2015		
Consultation on 2016 Draft GMSF	October 2016 to January 2017		
		Consultation on Regulation 18 Notification and Scoping Report	July to August 2017
Consultation 2019 Draft GMSF	January to March 2019		
Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021	August to October 2021		
		Consultation on Issues and Options (Regulation 18)	July to August 2021
Submission	January 2022		
		Consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	June to July 2022
Examination			
Adoption	December 2022		
		Consultation on Public Plan (Regulation 19)	June to July 2023
		Submission	September 2023
		Examination	
		Adoption	Summer 2024

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 To approve the LDS 2021 for consideration at Cabinet and for publication upon adoption.

Advantages – updating the LDS means that people will have certainty over the timetable for preparing our planning documents; national planning guidance and legislation requires the preparation of a LDS and that it must be kept up to date.

Disadvantages – there are no disadvantages to updating the LDS.

3.2 To not approve the LDS 2021 for consideration at Cabinet and for publication upon adoption.

Advantages – there are no advantages in not updating the LDS.

Disadvantages – not approving the LDS means that people will have less certainty and confidence in our planning documents coming forward; not updating the LDS means the Council will not be in line with national planning guidance and legislation.

4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 To approve the LDS 2021 for consideration at Cabinet and for publication upon adoption.

5 **Consultation**

5.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Leader and Portfolio Holder.

Communications

5.2 The updated LDS and timetable should be published on the council website and be made accessible to residents through alternative formats. (J Beckett)

6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 The cost of the additional production / distribution of the revised plan can be fully met from within current budgets held within the Development Control and Planning Service area. (Jamie Kelly)

7 **Legal Services Comments**

7.1 In accordance with S15(8) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) the Council must revise their local development scheme at such time as they consider appropriate. The Council must make the up-to-date text of the LDS, a copy of any amendments made to the LDS, and up-to-date information showing the state of the Council's compliance (or non-compliance) with the timetable for the preparation and revision of the development plan documents available to the public. Under the Council's Local Development Framework Scheme of Delegation, annual reviews of the LDS are the responsibility of the Cabinet. (A Evans)

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

8.1 The Local Plan follows the values of the Cooperative Agenda. The LDS, which is the project plan for the Local Plan, is being prepared in an open manner following the democratic processes of local government. The LDS allows people to see how and when they can get involved in the plan-making process. The planning process follows the values of the Cooperative Agenda through its consultation with local residents and communities and its open and democratic processes.

9 **Human Resources Comments**

9.1 Not applicable

10 **Risk Assessments**

10.1 The Local Plan is a key document in supporting the planning process and reducing the risk of challenge to future decisions (Mark Stenson)

11 **IT Implications**

11.1 Not applicable

12 **Property Implications**

12.1 There are no property comments at this time. (Bryn Cooke).

13 **Procurement Implications**

13.1 Not applicable.

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 The Local Plan will be the new land use plan and will have beneficial environmental impacts. Preparation of the Local Plan will need to be supported, and informed, by an Integrated Assessment, that incorporate sustainability appraisal requirement and considers the social, economic and environmental impacts of the Local Plan. The LDS as the project plan has no implications.

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1 The Local Plan is an important element of achieving community cohesion and addressing crime, and will require the completion of an equalities impact assessment as necessary. The LDS as the project plan has no implications.

16 **Implications for Children and Young People**

16.1 The Local Plan is an important element of achieving community cohesion and addressing crime, and will require the completion of an equalities impact assessment as necessary. The LDS as the project plan has no implications.

17 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

17.1 No. The Local Plan is an important element of achieving community cohesion and addressing crime, and will require the completion of an equalities impact assessment as necessary. The LDS as the project plan has no implications.

18 **Key Decision**

18.1 Yes

19 **Key Decision Reference**

19.1 HSG-02-21

20 **Background Papers**

20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref: Local Development Scheme e2021
Records held in Strategic Planning, Room 310, Level 3, Civic Centre
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21 **Appendices**

21.1 Appendix 1: Local Development Scheme 2021